

U.S.S.N. 09/823,847

Filed: March 30, 2001

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In the Claims

Claims 1-25 (canceled).

26. (currently amended) A method of inhibiting or preventing viral ~~infection~~ budding comprising, introducing into cells a Phospholipid Scramblase polypeptide or fragment thereof, wherein the polypeptide or fragment thereof contains the Phospholipid Scramblase motif PPxY and prevents virus budding.

27. (currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the ~~viral infection is an~~ infection of a virus is selected from the group consisting of a rhabdovirus, a filovirus, a retrovirus, a flavivirus, a coronavirus, a orthomyxovirus, a bunyavirus, a hepadnavirus, a herpesvirus, a poxvirus, a togavirus, a iridovirus, a paramyxovirus and a arenavirus.

28. (currently amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the ~~viral infection~~ virus is selected from the group consisting of ~~an HIV infection, an Ebola virus-infection, a Marburg virus infection and a Rabies virus infection.~~

29. (previously amended) The method of claim 26, wherein virally infected cells release membrane enveloped viruses, wherein the membrane is derived from the virally infected cell.

30. (previously submitted) The method of claim 26, wherein the Phospholipid Scramblase polypeptide or fragment thereof binds to one or more proteins containing one or more WW (Tryptophan-Tryptophan conserved residues) domain sequence motifs involved in viral budding.

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31. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the Phospholipid Scramblase polypeptide is interferon-inducible.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the Phospholipid Scramblase polypeptide has the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

33. (previously submitted) The method of claim 26, further comprising administering an interferon to the cells.

34. (cancelled)

35-58. (canceled)

59-67. (cancelled)